

Machinery Custom Rates, 2002

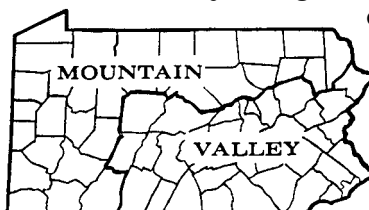
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The custom rates shown are averages from voluntary reports by custom operators and farmers throughout Pennsylvania. Most of the rates are stated per acre, cwt., ton, bale, or bushel rather than per hour to reduce the variation due to machinery size. Individual rates vary due to differences in working conditions, services performed, or even the operator's eagerness to do custom work. Therefore, the average rates shown should not be considered absolute indications of fair charges.

Acreage rates are shown separately for two regions of the state, labeled "Mountain" and "Valley". The differences in rates between regions reflect differences in terrain, soils and

alternative opportunities for the labor and equipment used. Figures labeled "State" represent the straight average of all reports used regardless of geographic location.

Of the 70 rates reported with year-to-year comparisons, 44 increased, 20 decreased, and 6 are the same as last year. The overall average is up 9 percent from the previous year. This percentage increase was computed by adding the rates for all jobs, regardless of basis of charge, and dividing by last year's comparable total. By excluding the increase for self-propelled chopper, the recalculated overall average results in a 4 percent increase.



Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 2002

Job	Basis of Charge	Mountain Section (Dollars)	Valley Section (Dollars)	State (Dollars)
----- Harvesting -----				
Corn Picking	Acre	22.30	21.90	22.10
Corn Combining	Acre	26.20	24.60	25.00
Corn Drying (23 Percent)	Bushel	0.29	0.25	0.27
Combining Small Grains	Acre	24.50	23.90	24.10
Combining Soybeans	Acre	26.30	24.80	25.10
Hay Making:				
Mowing	Acre	10.30	10.60	10.50
Mowing & Conditioning	Acre	11.20	11.80	11.50
Raking	Acre	7.70	5.80	6.40
Pick-up Baling (Twine)	Bale	0.45	0.44	0.44
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store	Bale	1.20	1.10	1.10
Large Round Baler (Avg. = 950 Lbs)	Bale	6.80	6.20	6.40
Wrapping Bales	Bale	5.40	5.00	5.20
Silage Making:				
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor	Hour	58.30	63.20	60.90
Self-Propelled Chopper	Hour	138.80	136.60	137.20
Blower	Hour	10.20	9.90	10.00
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor	Hour	41.80	44.50	43.20
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors	Hour	62.50	64.50	63.50
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo	Ton	6.70	5.00	5.70
Bagging Silage	Foot	8.70	3.40	5.00
----- Plowing & Cultivating -----				
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:				
Spring, Stubble	Acre	12.00	12.70	12.40
Sod	Acre	13.00	14.10	13.50
Fall, Stubble	Acre	11.80	12.80	12.30
Sod	Acre	12.70	14.10	13.40
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More)	Acre	13.50	15.50	14.70
Plowing, Chisel	Acre	11.80	12.50	12.30
Plowing, Disk	Acre	12.40	12.30	12.40
Disking, Tandem	Acre	11.40	11.20	11.30
With Harrow or Cultipacker	Acre	12.50	12.60	12.50
Harrowing:				
Spike Tooth	Acre	9.40	8.30	8.70